possible synergic benefits, factors over which the Government has no control, and such changes in valuation have occurred in most of the companies that have been disinvested.

Campaign for elimination of Polio Cases

28. SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have launched some time back a country-wide campaign for eliminating the polio cases amongst the children;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the target set and target achieved during the last five years, State- wise and year-wise;

(c) whether it is a fact that the incidence of polio cases is showing an upward trend in some selected States in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the measures contemplated to control the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) Yes, Sir. The Intensified Pulse Polio Programme was started in 1995-96.

(b) The data in respect of targets set and achieved for the last five years, State-wise and year-wise is indicated in Annexure. [*See* Appendix 197, Annexure No. 2]

(c) and (d) There has been rise in polio cases in some districts of U.P., Bihar, Delhi and West Bengal during 2002. The number of cases detected in States during 2002 is also indicated in the above mentioned Annexure.

The national goal is to eradicate polio from the country and obtain international polio-free certification by 2005. The annual strategies for achieving this goal are formulated and implemented on the basis of advice of a group of national and international experts. Two National Immunization Days are observed throughout the country for giving polio drops to the children below 5 years of age. In additional, sub-National Immunization Days are also observed in States where cases are reported to be increasing.

Mop-up vaccination rounds are also conducted in the districts and adjoining areas where new cases are detected.

Upgradation of Medical College in Assam

29. SHRI DWIJENDRA NATH SHARMAH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal to upgrade any medical College in Assam at par with AIIMS;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, whether Government will take such proposal in the interest of people of North-East?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) to (c) There is no proposal to upgrade any medical college in Assam at for with AIIMS. However, proposals have been received under the Scheme "Support for Development of Additional facilities at specialization and super-specialisation at 3 medical colleges in Assam" at a total cost of Rs. 2714.48 lakhs. These will be considered if funds are available after addressing the various health programmes.

Infrastructural deficiencies in hospitals

30. SHRI R.P. GOENKA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any review has been undertaken, in co-ordination with the States, to assess the infrastructural deficiencies in hospitals in various States in the wake of death of 14 children in two days in September, 2002 in the State-run B.C. Memorial Hospital in Kolkata;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to help the States in upgrading their infrastructure and other facilities in the hospitals and also for effecting structural changes like inclusion of private and community representatives in the State Medical Councils etc., towards greater participation and awareness on the needs of health system?